

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Approved For Release 2006/04/21 : CIA-RDP91T01172R000300030004-3

OCI No. 0311  
Copy No. 35

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE  
4 October 1954

TO: Deputy Director (Intelligence)  
SUBJECT: Impending East German Elections

1. Date: 17 October 1954.
2. Offices to be filled: Lower house of parliament (Volkskammer). Voters of the 14 districts and East Berlin will elect 400 representatives on a single list ballot.
3. Parties participating: Socialist Unity (Communist); and the communist-controlled Christian Democratic Union, Liberal Democratic, Democratic Peasants', National Democratic; also various "mass organizations" will send delegates (Free German Trade Union Federation, Free German Youth, Democratic Women's League, Culture League, Agricultural Cooperatives).
4. Party representation: The ratio of representation has been altered in favor of the Socialist Unity (Communist) Party (SED). The number of Volkskammer seats of the non-Communist parties is being scaled down as follows: Christian Democrats (CDU), 60 to 38; Liberal Democrats (LDP), 60 to 36; Democratic Peasants (DBD), 45 to 31; and National Democrats (NDP), 45 to 39. While the decrease is supposed to reflect an actual loss in membership of these parties, this does not hold true for the NDP which has grown in size.
5. Significant features: For the first time, citizens of "Greater Berlin" (which includes the Western sectors) are qualified to vote. In the 1950 parliamentary elections Berliners did not vote, which was in keeping with the quadripartite character of Berlin. In spite of the inclusion of its citizens in the vote Berlin will continue to send non-voting observers rather than full delegates to the Volkskammer, suggesting that the USSR is still giving cognizance to the quadripartite character of the city.

Document No.	4
Re Change to ( )	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Serial No.	
Pres. ( )	
25X1	
101172R000300030004-3	
CONFIDENTIAL	

Approved For Release 2006/04/21 : CIA-RDP91T01172R000300030004-3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Approved For Release 2006/04/21 : CIA-RDP91T01172R000300030004-3

According to the East German Constitution, all parties electing more than 40 delegates should be allocated portfolios in the government. Hence under the new allocation of Volkskammer seats (see (4) above) the premier will have a legal basis for the possible future removal of all non-Communist ministers.

[Redacted]  
Acting Assistant Director  
Current Intelligence

25X1

[Redacted]

25X1

Approved For Release 2006/04/21 : CIA-RDP91T01172R000300030004-3

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~